ESWI’s motivation

Scientists have the moral obligation to help reduce the burden of influenza in society. We know that this is possible. Vaccines can be soothing for patients and we know that not giving antivirals to critical patients can be fatal. And still, in Europe, seasonal influenza still claims more lives than traffic accidents. ESWI therefore believes that experts must continuously explain the benefits of influenza control, prevention and treatment to the general public. And they should be clear about the scientific uncertainties too. After all, research on influenza is aiming at a “moving target”.

Enhancing public health protection against influenza is a goal that scientists clearly cannot achieve just by themselves. They need to reach out and work with the many groups of people who need scientific evidence in their daily practice: public health officials, healthcare professionals, at-risk patients, and the elderly. That is precisely why ESWI has established constructive working relations with a multitude of stakeholder organizations. In fact, ESWI has now created a network of supporters that work with the latest scientific insights to formulate and disseminate sound public health messages.

To voice these scientifically sound messages, the ESWI network develops tailor-made tools. We tap into different financial resources to fund our projects. Yet, in all circumstances, we remain an independent organization of socially-concerned members and partners, none of whom ever receives a fee or an honorarium for their ESWI work. After all, ESWI’s partners all share one objective: to improve public health protection against influenza, turning the ESWI network into a unique and effective organization to address influenza issues in Europe.

On behalf of ESWI’s Board of Directors,

Prof. Dr. A.D.M.E. Osterhaus
ESWI Chair

Prof. Dr. P. Openshaw
ESWI Vice-Chair

ESWI’s objective and actions

To translate expertise and enhance awareness among all European stakeholders that influenza is a public health priority.

Influenza Community Activities

- Nurturing Future Scientists
- Forging an Influenza Coalition
- Publishing and Dissemination of Key Scientific Articles and Reviews

"To translate expertise and enhance awareness among all European stakeholders that influenza is a public health priority."
FORGING AN INFLUENZA COALITION

ESWI STRENGTHENS THE TIES WITH ITS PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS TO:

- Put flu on the agenda of the ESWI partner organizations
- Enhance the dissemination of influenza messages
- Obtain endorsement and/or co-funding of projects
- Issue and disseminate joint position papers on specific influenza-related issues
CISN

Identifies local barriers in influenza management
Develops an action plan to overcome barriers
Now active in Turkey, Austria and Israel

ESWI INFLUENZA CONFERENCES

- Largest European influenza conferences
- Held every three years
- Assembles the most renowned influenza scientists to showcase recent advances in basic science, to stimulate the scientific debate and to identify new research routes
- www.eswiconference.org

ESWI FLU SUMMIT

- Platform for influenza stakeholder organisations
- Held in Brussels: 26 May 2011, 23 May 2012 and 2 May 2013
- www.flusummit.org

SCIENCE POLICY INTERFACE

- delineated programme track for public health officials
- ‘translates’ the newest scientific data and presents good practices about influenza policy measures and recommendations
- seven sessions, ample room for Q&A and discussion
- session reports published as part of conference proceedings

THE COUNTRY INFLUENZA STAKEHOLDERS NETWORKS

INFLUENZA COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES
AWARDS FOR BEST ORAL AND BEST POSTER PRESENTATIONS

BEST BODY OF WORK AWARD

to advance research in the influenza field
competition open to all young scientists throughout the world judged by an international committee spanning all of influenza

LABORATORY TRAINING COURSE ON INFLUENZA DIAGNOSTICS

course on basic laboratory techniques for influenza diagnosis
organized at Erasmus MC in Rotterdam

CONFERENCE SESSIONS DEDICATED TO WORK BY YOUNG SCIENTISTS

CONFERENCE SESSIONS DEDICATED TO WORK BY YOUNG SCIENTISTS

NURTURING FUTURE SCIENTISTS

CONFERENCE SESSIONS DEDICATED TO WORK BY YOUNG SCIENTISTS

CONFERENCE SESSIONS DEDICATED TO WORK BY YOUNG SCIENTISTS
FLUQUEST – reports diversity of pandemic response approaches and outcomes in Europe – reporting article in the Journal of Health Policy

COCHRANE RE-ARRANGED – alternative review of flu vaccine effectiveness data in the elderly - substantial evidence found that influenza vaccination reduces the risk of disease and death in the elderly - paper published October 2013 (ScienceDirect)

PREPARE – FP7 preparedness against epidemics

FLUNIVAC – FP7 universal vaccination
ORDER OUR FREE INFLUENZA TOOLS

— “Influenza: aiming at a moving target”: flu documentary, available in 38 or 23 minutes version, in English.
— “A concept to tackle flu nationwide”: documents ESWI network building project: the Country Influenza Stakeholder Networks
— “101 Questions & Answers about Influenza”: ESWI’s Q&A book is a major work of reference for anyone with an interest in flu.

Order your free copies via ESWI’s management at david.depooter@eswi.org.

find us on the web

@ www.flucommunity.org
  the newest online discussion platform for influenza stakeholders

@ www.flucentre.net
  the online influenza knowledge centre for healthcare professionals

@ www.eswi.org
  all about the European Scientific Working group on Influenza

@ www.eswiconference.org
  all about ESWI’s Fifth ESWI Influenza Conference

@ www.facebook.com/EuropeanScientistsFightingInfluenza